

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to remove an unnecessary phrase.

Election/Restriction

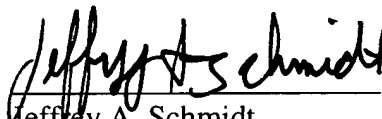
In response to the Election of Species Requirement as mailed on October 1, 2003, Applicants hereby elect Species I, Figs. 8-18 for prosecution on the merits. Claims 1-3, 10-12, 23, and 24, are readable on the elected species. An early and favorable action on the merits is hereby requested.

Conclusion

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: November 3, 2003